

What Is Claimed Is:

1. An isolated polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a nucleic acid sequence encoding amino acid residues 1 to 84 in SEQ ID NO:2 or an amino acid sequence at least 95% identical thereto;

(b) a nucleic acid sequence encoding amino acid residues 2 to 84 in SEQ ID NO:2 or an amino acid sequence at least 95% identical thereto;

(c) a nucleic acid sequence encoding amino acid residues 22 to 84 in SEQ ID NO:2 or an amino acid sequence at least 95% identical thereto;

(d) a nucleic acid sequence encoding a biologically active fragment of the polypeptide described in (a) or an amino acid sequence at least 95% identical thereto;

(e) a nucleic acid sequence encoding at least 30 contiguous amino acid residues of SEQ ID NO:2;

(f) the nucleic acid sequence of a polynucleotide which hybridizes to the coding portion of SEQ ID NO:1 and wherein said nucleic acid sequence encodes a biologically active polypeptide; and

(g) a nucleic acid sequence complementary to the nucleic acid sequence of (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) or (f).

2. An isolated polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the complete polypeptide encoded by the human cDNA in clone HFCET92 or a polypeptide at least 95% identical thereto;

(b) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the complete polypeptide, excepting the N-terminal methionine, encoded by the human cDNA in clone HFCET92 or a polypeptide at least 95% identical thereto;

(c) a nucleic acid sequence encoding a mature polypeptide encoded by the human cDNA in clone HFCET92 or a polypeptide at least 95% identical thereto;

(d) a nucleic acid sequence encoding a biologically active fragment of the polypeptide encoded by the human cDNA in clone HFCET92 or a polypeptide at least 95% identical thereto;

(e) a nucleic acid sequence encoding at least 30 contiguous amino acid residues of the polypeptide encoded by the human cDNA contained in clone HFCET92;

(f) the nucleic acid sequence of a polynucleotide which hybridizes to the coding portion of the human cDNA in clone HFCET92 and wherein said nucleic acid sequence encodes a biologically active polypeptide; and

(g) a nucleotide sequence complementary to any of the nucleotide sequences in (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) or (f).

3. An isolated polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence which encodes an amino acid sequence at least 95% identical to an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) the amino acid sequence of residues n-84 of SEQ ID NO:2, where n is an integer in the range of 17 to 22;

(b) the amino acid sequence of residues 17-m of SEQ ID NO:2, where m is an integer in the range of 68-84;

(c) the amino acid sequence of residues n-m of SEQ ID NO:2, where n and m are integers as defined respectively in (a) and (b) above;

(d) a portion of the amino acid sequence encoded by the human cDNA in clone HFCET92 wherein said portion excludes from 16 to about 21 amino acid residues from the amino terminus of said sequence;

(e) a portion of the amino acid sequence encoded by the human cDNA in clone HFCET92 wherein said portion excludes from 1 to about 16 amino acids from the carboxy terminus of said sequence; and

(f) a portion of the amino acid sequence encoded by the human cDNA in clone HFCET92 wherein said portion includes a combination of any of the amino terminal and carboxy terminal deletions in (d) and (e), above.

4. An isolated polynucleotide comprising a polynucleotide which encodes an epitope-bearing portion of SEQ ID NO:2 or of the polypeptide encoded by the human cDNA contained in clone HFCET92.

5. The isolated polynucleotide of claim 4 which encodes an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) amino acid residues Leu-26 to Cys-34 of SEQ ID NO:2;

(b) amino acid residues Thr-36 to Leu-45 of SEQ ID NO:2;

- (c) amino acid residues Thr-58 to Leu-66 in SEQ ID NO:2; and
- (d) amino acid residues Pro-77 to Val-84 in SEQ ID NO:2.

6. The polynucleotide of claim 1 wherein said nucleic acid sequence is (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) or (f).

7. A method for making a recombinant vector comprising inserting the polynucleotide of claim 6 into a vector.

8. A recombinant vector produced by the method of claim 7.

9. The polynucleotide of claim 6 operably linked to a regulatory sequence which controls gene expression.

10. A method of making a recombinant host cell comprising introducing the polynucleotide of claim 6 into a host cell.

11. A recombinant host cell produced by the method of claim 10.

12. A method for producing a polypeptide, comprising culturing the recombinant host cell of claim 11 under conditions such that the encoded polypeptide is expressed and recovering said polypeptide.

13. An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence which is at least 95% identical to an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) amino acid residues 1 to 84 in SEQ ID NO:2;
- (b) amino acid residues 2 to 84 in SEQ ID NO:2;
- (c) amino acid residues 22 to 84 in SEQ ID NO:2;
- (d) the amino acid sequence of a biologically active fragment of the polypeptide described in (a);
- (e) at least 30 contiguous amino acid residues of SEQ ID NO:2; and
- (f) the amino acid sequence of a biologically active polypeptide encoded by a polynucleotide which hybridizes to the coding portion of SEQ ID NO:1.

14. An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence which is at least 95% identical to an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) the amino acid sequence of the complete polypeptide encoded by the human cDNA in clone HFCET92;
- (b) the amino acid sequence of the complete polypeptide, excepting the N-terminal methionine, encoded by the human cDNA in clone HFCET92;
- (c) the amino acid sequence of a mature polypeptide encoded by the human cDNA in clone HFCET92;
- (d) the amino acid sequence of a biologically active fragment of the polypeptide encoded by the human cDNA in clone HFCET92;
- (e) at least 30 contiguous amino acid residues of the polypeptide encoded by the human cDNA contained in clone HFCET92; and
- (f) the amino acid sequence of a biologically active fragment of the polypeptide encoded by a polynucleotide which hybridizes to the coding portion of the human cDNA in clone HFCET92.

15. An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence at least 95% identical to an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) the amino acid sequence of residues n-84 of SEQ ID NO:2, where n is an integer in the range of 17 to 22;
- (b) the amino acid sequence of residues 17-m of SEQ ID NO:2, where m is an integer in the range of 68-84;
- (c) the amino acid sequence of residues n-m of SEQ ID NO:2, where n and m are integers as defined respectively in (a) and (b) above;
- (d) a portion of the amino acid sequence encoded by the human cDNA in clone HFCET92 wherein said portion excludes from 16 to about 21 amino acid residues from the amino terminus of said sequence;
- (e) a portion of the amino acid sequence encoded by the human cDNA in clone HFCET92 wherein said portion excludes from 1 to about 16 amino acids from the carboxy terminus of said sequence; and

(f) a portion of the amino acid sequence encoded by the human cDNA in clone HFCET92 wherein said portion includes a combination of any of the amino terminal and carboxy terminal deletions in (d) and (e), above.

16. An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) amino acid residues Leu-26 to Cys-34 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (b) amino acid residues Thr-36 to Leu-45 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (c) amino acid residues Thr-58 to Leu-66 in SEQ ID NO:2; and
- (d) amino acid residues Pro-77 to Val-84 in SEQ ID NO:2.

17. An isolated antibody that binds specifically to the polypeptide of claim 13.

18. A composition comprising the isolated polypeptide of claim 13 in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

19. A method of treating an individual comprising administering to the individual the composition of claim 18.

20. A method of diagnosing an immune system disorder in an individual comprising determining the level of expression of the polypeptide of claim 13 in the individual and comparing the expression level to a standard level.

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